The Pacific

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Pacific School of Religion Calif. Berkeley

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE SECTION

OCAL, HELPFUL, EFFICIENT SERVICE

Recently we were asked to provide aterial for the World Service Sunday chools to be used during the quarter eginning April 1. Immediately the uperintendent took the request to the eligious Education Committee, where e projects were worked out and as-gnments made for the preparation of e material. Within three weeks the aterial—most excellent material—was the Superintendent's desk in shape -superb shape—for the printer.

This material was prepared primarily r use in the Intermediate, Senior and oung People's Departments of the hurch School, but it can be adapted r the younger pupils by the teachers charge. The stories are as follows:

April—One Minister to a County, by rs. L. M. Drury; Patch Upon Patch nd a Hole in the Middle, by Mrs. W. . Furze.

May—The Japanese Work in Fresno, Miss H. M. Perkins; The Federated hinese Work in San Francisco, by iss Perkins.

June—The Migrant Work in Califor-a, by Miss H. M. Perkins; The Mo-oc Indians, by Mrs. L. M. Drury.

We would advise all World Service chool leaders to cut out this material r use. If extra copies are needed, rite to the Conference office. These ories are to supplement whatever the issionary Education Committee has nt from the east.

ONE MINISTER TO A COUNTY

On August 8, 1900, in the heart of e town of Angel's Camp in an old rave yard, the Congregational Church as built. Angel's Camp is a mining wn, and in 1900 the population was 000. The population of a mining town fluctuating, and at present there are 000 people in the town.

In 1903 a new church was built, and e name was changed to the Union ongregational Church. This is the ly Protestant church in the town, the hers being Greek and Catholic.

Short pastorates have been one of e problems of the Angel's Camp urch. So many plans for the work e made and are never carried out, be-use, for one cause or another, the inister has to leave. For a year before e present pastor took up the work e church was without a pastor. Like-ise, he took over much of Calaveras ounty, and is the only resident Prot-tant minister there.

For some months Rev. Isaac Cook-an has been the pastor and is doing ne work. He is seventy-five years oung, a man with a vision and full of ergy. He has been a miner, so has fellow feeling for these men in this ining country. Besides serving the urch at Angel's Camp, he holds eekly meetings at Murphy and Val-cito. He and his car average 1,500 iles per month. One of the faithful omen workers in the church has said, We need a young man to assist the astor in carrying on the work in this reat missionary field, which has been long without a spiritual guide. A an for the summer would help tre-endously."

Mr. Cookman is paid by the Home issionary Society, this salary being upplemented by a salary of $500 per ear paid by the church at Angel's. There are fourteen members in the church and about fifty in the church school. They find it quite a struggle to raise the $500.

Since the new church was built, the old church building has been made into a modern social hall, equipped with dressing rooms, kitchenette with a two-burner electric plate. It is planned to use this hall as a library and community center. Through gifts from some of the larger churches, a piano, a stereopticon and 800 books have been provided. The need of a social hall has been a long-felt want, as there are 115 in attendance in the High School and 135 in the Grammar School. There are no supervised playgrounds in the town, and the only amusement is the picture show.

A Young People's Society is being organized, and a young man could help the pastor with the young people's work in the county. When the Young People's Society is fully organized, the young people of Stockton are planning to hold an Asilomar rally at Angel's Camp.

The special needs of the church right now are a young man helper, and subscriptions to current magazines for their reading table.

This is the kind of work that you are giving your money to, through the Conference office.

PATCH UPON PATCH AND A HOLE IN THE MIDDLE

A queer title for a Sunday School, isn't it? Come with me and judge for yourself.

Less than ten years ago a few far-sighted people found a very beautiful spot near the city of Oakland which promised to be a wonderful residential section. They knew it would be an ideal place for a Congregational Church. A meeting was held to talk things over and a fine lot was purchased. Soon a Sunday School was started in a neighbor's home, but in a short time the house was too small. Then a tent was bought, and in rain and wind, heat and cold, pestered with flies and mosquitoes, the church and Sunday School work was carried on, but the tent blew up and the tent blew down and there was no place for either children or parents.

Then one holiday the men of the neighborhood got together and put up a one-room building, which was used by little and big for worship. Soon the Sunday School outgrew its clothes and the first patch had to be put on. This was a second unit added to the first and built in the same way by devoted men. Again the child grew too big for its clothes and more patches were needed, and tents were used again for a time.

Finally, the devoted and hardworking minister went out after more patches and found some at a nearby school. They were two portable buildings which were not being used, and were loaned to the overgrown child. Once more the men went to work and by means of a tractor hauled the buildings over on the church lot, and patches three and four were added.

The Beginners' Department uses one building, but it is already overcrowded. "There are lots of babies in the neighborhood, but we cannot go after them, for we haven't the room or chairs," says the minister.

The Primary Department is in the second portable building and sitting all over the place, for they haven't chairs enough, either.

The Junior and Intermediate Departments meet in the original building, which must be cleared quickly each Sunday morning in time for church service. The boys meet in the pastor's study, and there is no Senior Department, for there is no place to put them.

But what about the hole in the middle? Oh, that is the floor of one old tent between the church building and the portables, with no covering, which has been promised to the boys for a meeting place if they can fix it up.

The one and only need of the whole institution is a new church building, and if the need is not soon met 400 children will be swallowed up by "the hole in the middle" and a whole community will be lost to the Congregational work.

Where is this place that I have been telling about? Go to Oakland, take a car to San Leandro and find the Broadmoor Congregational Church and see it yourself.

Part of the money which you give goes into this kind of work, through the Congregational State Conference.

FEDERATION MEETING

The Federation of Congregational Women of Northern California met in Oakland First Church February 16. A full attendance was recorded. And here a word to the women of our churches: By virtue of your church membership you are a member of this Federation and have a right to know of the business transacted and results attained. It is for you to see that your commissioner—appointed by your church—is given the opportunity to make a brief report (five minutes) each month, preferably in some meeting of men and women.

Mrs. Peck led the devotional service and gave emphasis to Paul's words found in Col. 1:19. Her thought and prayer naturally turned to our beloved young missionary in Brousa, Miss Edith Sanderson, whose arrest and possible deportation for having broken the Turkish law forbidding religious instruction had been made known through Associated Press dispatches. These have not yet been verified by direct word from Brousa.

Immediately following the devotional Mrs. Kofoid with her characteristic optimism advised all to withhold judgment as to the merits of the case until other than Turkish reports were available. Before this is read, messages will have passed between the counselors for our missionaries and the American Board that will undoubtedly set our minds at rest.

The remainder of the morning was filled with business. An invitation was received from the church in Benicia to hold the April meeting there. Fuller announcement will be made at the March meeting.

The afternoon was full of interest. After some Conference business Mrs. Arthur Moore of Oakland First gave a comprehensive program covering an imaginary world tour on the steamship Maratha (an abbreviation of the two names Mary and Martha), touching all the countries where we have missionary interests.

Miss Perkins as Home Field Secretary gave an account of a Christmas among the migrants in the Imperial Valley. Last Christmas Miss Reed, the worker in the Imperial Valley, started out in her car with "Baby Migrant" (the portable organ which the Council of Women for Home Missions furnished last summer), a Christmas tree and its decorations, and the gifts which had been coming to her from friends, until she said she could hardly walk around them in her small room. As far as weather permitted, she made the round of the camps, though some had to wait until after Christmas. At each camp the tree was set up and decorated and hung with gifts. Christmas hymns were sung and the Christmas story was told. To many of the large audiences right here in our own country that story was told for the first time. Gifts were distributed to many who had never had a Christmas gift before. Then the perambulating Christmas festival moved on to carry its message of love and good will somewhere else.

Mrs. Peck, Foreign Field Secretary, reported a letter from Bertha Allen, now in Guadalajara, Mexico. This letter was printed in The Pacific for February and should be read by all interested in her. She also read a letter from Miss Parsons in Mazatlan, Mexico. The entire letter is full of interest. After a most strenuous Christmas week she writes of going two hours distant to hold a special New Year Sunday School and church service. The place was one of the poorest in Mexico—houses made of tree branches stuck in the ground, mud floors and thatched roofs. But the warm greeting made the trip worth while.

Dr. Swartz came by invitation to tell of the Mid-Winter Conference, of the reorganizations made necessary by the merger, and the many problems met and adjusted.

MRS. J. P. PRUTZMAN.

A. M. A. SPEAKER

Miss Gertrude Marsh of Marquez, N. M., will be available for speaking engagements in California from the middle of March until Easter. Any churches interested in securing Miss Marsh for their meetings should get in touch with Mrs. H. T. Helfer, 809 Barbara Road, Oakland.

EASTER PROGRAMS

The Conference office has received a supply of leaflets describing dramas, pageants, etc., also Sunday School supplies, to be used for the Easter season. Sample copies of a few of these may be seen here also.

CHILDREN'S SLIDES

The Northern California office has recently received two sets of slides about children.

By an exchange of slides with Southern California we have received the set "With the Boys and Girls Abroad," a set put out by the American Board, and from the New York office we have received their set for a few months, "Of Such Is the Kingdom." Those of our people who have been asking for these sets, please take notice and send in your requests early.

SAN CARLOS ORGANIZES

There was a delightful spirit manifest Sunday evening, February 19, when about twenty-five charter members gathered in the school buliding at San Carlos to organize a Community Church under the auspices of the Northern California Congregational Conference. Rev. Reed B. Cherington had gathered the group for such an occasion and had present for the services Rev. Willard B. Thorp of Palo Alto, Rev. Bryant Preston, also of Palo Alto, who had done some of the initial work in the organization, and Superintendent Minchin.

These brethren spoke words of greeting and fellowship, and Mr. Cherington outlined the aims and purposes of the church, presenting a constitution that was unanimously adopted, after which necessary officers were elected. Mr. Cherington is giving his time to this promising field, directing its church and school activities.

This territory came to the Congregationalists by allocation of the Comity Council, and almost immediately after the allocation Rev. R. J. Currie of Redwood City interested his church and Sunday School in starting a school there. As it developed he felt that it should become the care of the Conference, which resulted in the steps taken by Messrs. Preston and Cherington. The enterprise will get the friendly support of the Santa Clara Association and make stronger one of our strong Associations.

SANTA ROSA

On the evening of December 29 the new Austin organ just installed in the First Congregational Church was formally dedicated. Mr. Naylor of the Sebastopol Church made the dedicatory address. Mrs. J. O. Cross, president of the Congregational Community Club—the women's organization of the church—spoke in regard to the plans which finally led up to the purchase of the organ. Mr. Tilton, western agent for the Austin Organ Company, demonstrated the organ, and Mr. Muller of the Olympic Glee Club of San Francisco was the soloist.

On January 15 eleven new members were added to the Santa Rosa Church, nine by letter and two on Confession of Faith. On January 22 sixteen members of the Bethany Baptist Church joined the church and merged their organization with that of First Church. This brings the membership of the church to 99.

AN INTERESTING INSTITUTE LIKEWISE A SUGGESTION

Broadmoor Church is running a religious education institute all by itself. It will be held Sunday March 11. This issue may go out too late to get observers there. It will run afternoon and evening, with a supper arranged by the Primary teachers. The Young People's Forum of First, Oakland will stage "A Rally for Asilomar." Inspirational addresses will be given by Drs. Woddell and Fisher. We endorse this idea hoping it will include Asilomar in the institute program.

PERSONALS

Rev. Norman W. Pendleton and family have returned to California after nearly four years service in Rutherford, N. J., where he helped in the building of a $100,000 church. He wishes to locate in California. We trust that it will be in the Northern Conference.

Rev Richard C. Day has been called to Hayward and is at work. The ladies are making repairs and generally improving the parsonage. It is some time since Hayward has had a full time pastor.

Rev. Huber Burr has resigned at Tulare and is making his residence at 63 Homestead street, San Francisco until he decides where to locate.

SAN JOSE—The First Congregational Church of San Jose held its annual meeting on January 18. It proved to be the best in many years. The reports showed a wide variety of religious and social activity, including the boy scouts, campfire girls, etc.

Perhaps the outstanding piece of work is the evening service which has succeeded for two and a half years in filling the church auditorium to its capacity. The significant thing, in the minds of many, is not the numbers reached, though this is gratifying, but the attentive, worshipful spirit that is being developed in this large group, which includes many boys and girls and many grown people unaccustomed to attend church. At these services there is a growing participation by the people in the songs, prayers and scripture passages thrown upon the screen. Mr. Morrison uses this service to put across a message of real evangelistic fervor. These messages are listened to each Sunday with marked attention.

There is a growing church school under the direction of a paid director of religious education.

The young people are divided into two groups or societies. The Mayflower Club for high school young people, and the Fireside Club for college and business young people, directed by Mr. Morrison. A large section of seats is reserved each Sunday at the evening service for the young people of these groups. They make an imposing sight as they march in just before the service begins.

The finances are in good shape. During the year a fine motion picture equipment was purchased and repairs were made on the roof. The year ended without a deficit, except that a small sum was carried over from a previous loan.

The women are doing efficient work through the four groups into which they are organized.

The morning services, though not as well attended as we could wish, are of a high order. The pastor is doing perhaps the best pulpit work of his ministry so far, and is gaining an increasing influence within and outside the church.

Three hundred booklets, Fellowship of Prayer, have been given out for the church in connection with the Lenten period.

W. E. E.

ARTHUR BUNCE WRITES BOOK

From his place of retreat, in his hours of convalescence, Rev, Arthur Bunce formerly pastor at Rio Vista has written for boys and girls entitled "The Boy Who Wanted To Fly". The price is $2.00 a copy. It has 120 pages and 10 illustrations. It has a number of talks for boys and girls. Here is an opportunity to give cheer to a minister who has been bed-ridden for two years, during which time he has kept his heart young and his courage cheerful. If interested send your orders to

Arthur Bunce, California Sanitarium, Belmont, California.

EDITH SANDERSON

Friends of Edith Sanderson are very much concerned over the troublous times in Turkey which led to the closing of her Brousa school. For their sake we wish to say that a letter from her to her family here, written just after the preliminary trial, shows a much more hopeful viewpoint on her part.

The March issue of the Missionary Herald will carry a report of an interview which Mr. Riggs had with the Turkish ambassador in Washington. The American Board believes that it will all come out right. Dr. Goodsell tells them they are doing everything possible there on the field.

Trial postponed until April 2.

GRASS VALLEY

The Grass Valley Church, under the leadership of its pastor, Rev. E. O. Chapel, has been experiencing a quiet but substantial growth in things spiritual and material. During the last two communion services thirteen adult members have been welcomed into the church fellowship, while other workers have joined our working force. The Sunday School is taking on new life.

The month of February was a busy one in the Grass Valley Church. As a starting point the Cathedral pipe organ was thoroughly overhauled, receiving needed repairs and voicing, which, with the installation of a new tremolo stop, wonderfully improves the tonal effects of this splendid instrument.

The pastor met the expense of the $110 incurred, through money received from personal solicitations among the business men of the city, supplemented by an organ recital by Arthur James Chase, well known theater organist of New York City and bandmaster of the Eleventh Regiment Marine Corps band overseas, receiving a gold medal in France during the World War.

Sunday morning, February 12, Prof. Chase was again heard in numerous sacred organ selections, interspersed with vocal selections contributed by leading soloists of Grass Valley and Nevada City. During the evening church service of the same Sunday Mrs. Reta Beloud, the church organist, assisted by a corps of local singers, provided another program of sacred music, both programs drawing unusually large audiences.

Sunday, February 26, the church concluded a two weeks' Evangelical campaign of an interdenominational character under the leadership of Evangelist McBride of Pasadena, assisted by pianist and song leader. Prominent singers from the Sacramento region, together with local talent, added to the interest of the services.

The outstanding effect of the meetings, in addition to other definite results, was a closer drawing together of the spiritual element of the various churches in the community. Misunderstandings were eliminated in some instances, in consequence of which a more friendly feeling prevails throughout the church community.

AN EVANGELIST

Rheba Crawford, who filled the pulpit at First Church, San Francisco, prior to the coming of Dr. Hawkins, and later at Fruitvale Church, has left the ministry to go into evangelistic work. One of the first places she visited was our church at San Mateo. After her work there the pastor, Dr. C. L. Kloss, wrote to the conference office in glowing commendation of her.

"We are more than pleased with Rheba Crawford. She did two things for us—stirred and quickened the loyalty of the members for Christ and the church and made such a strong appeal for the drifting church members that it is very likely we are to get some of them to unite at our next communion.

"She was especially strong too, in her appeal to the young people. We had an average of about 100 during the week and packed houses the last Sunday. The impression she made was uniformly good. She is certainly a woman full of personal charm and has great gifts which will carry her far."

Dr. Palmer had her at Santa Cruz for an evening and she made a wonderfully favorable impression there. Those of our people who heard her at Asilomar last summer will readily understand this. Some of the other churches in our Conference are planning for her to make them a visit. She is now at Pacific Grove. Rev. Rowland B. Dodge is booking her engagements.

FEWER BUT BETTER CHURCHES

Such was the slogan ten years ago. Since 1917 we have decreased the number of churches from 134 to 114—a loss of 20. Since 1917 we have increased the number of members from 16,397 to 18,101—a gain of 1704. We have passed for the first time the 18,000 mark. Help us reach the 20,000 membership mark by 1930!

ON THE DOTTED LINE

Our Conference contract with the Asilomar management has been signed! We start a new plan this year; instead of beginning our conference with the lunch hour on Monday and closing after breakfast on the following Monday, as we have done heretofore, we begin this year with the lunch hour on Friday, and close with breakfast the following Friday. We go in the day the M. E. M. Conference closes.

The program committees of the two Conferences are busy at work, to make the Conferences this year the best ever. The churches will want to begin very soon to plan for those who are going as delegates and to encourage their young people to send as many delegates and students as possible.

Remember the date—August 3 to 10; and the place—Asilomar.

THANK YOU!

Have you anything to be thankful for? Are you thankful?

Some people make an annual inventory of their blessings, around the latter part of November, and forget about it the rest of the year. But the Congregational women believe that there is another season of the year when we should be thankful as well, and that is at Easter time. Therefore they have instituted an Easter Thank Offering period, and the Conference office is expecting to receive any day the new services for this year, which were being thought about over a month ago by our leaders in the east. The boxes and envelopes with the cross on the front will be used again this year, as well as the Four Aims and the Invitations:

Ye who this year have known especial blessing,
Ye who this year have reason for gratitude,
Ye who this year have endured hardship,
Ye who this year have suffered great sorrow,
Out of your Experience
Will want to share and sympathize with others
In a Thank Offering Service.

AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL MASS MEETING

In preparation for the Visitation Evangelism to be carried on in San Francisco, a rally is being planned at the First Baptist Church, Market and Octavia streets, Friday March 16, at 7:30 P. M.. Prominent speakers will outline the work and the purpose of the Visitation. There will be interesting music. Friends of the cause are urged to give this meeting their cordial support.

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Prepares men and women for the various religious vocations, at home and abroad.
In addition to standard courses, the school is notably equipped to afford special training in numerous timely subjects, as for example: City and Rural Pastorates, Week-day Church Schools, Ministry in Buddhist Lands, Palestinian Archaeology (Excavations at Mizpah of Benjamin).
Carefully directed field experience.
Opportunities for self-support.
Facilities of University of California.
New and commodious buildings.
Next semester opens Aug. 20, 1928.
Herman F. Swartz, President.
California is a great place in which to study and live.

THE WEST COAST OF MEXICO

y Reasons for Believing That It Would Be Well for Our Conference to Assume the Direction of Our Congregational Work in Mexico.

By Lawrence A. Wilson

stor, Mission Hills Congregational Church, San Diego

There are three reasons why I would vor the taking over of responsibility our Congregational work on the st coast of Mexico by our Conference.

1. The missionaries on the field de e it.
2. The officers of the American ard have stated their desire for it.
3. The men in our churches, where y have heard of the project, favor

These are the facts as I have gathed them in two tours of Mexico, and ough attendance at the different etings at which the project has been cussed during the past three years.

By Herbert C. Ide

Pastor of the First Congregational Church, Redlands

The reasons I favored the assumpn by the Southern California Conferce of the American Board's work on West coast of Mexico, which I ve visited and investigated, are efly as follows:

(1) The work is not now being done equately by the American Board, nor es it appear to have been done so for ny years past. Boston is a long way m the West coast of Mexico. I perally know of very annoying hindces to the work, which came from red tape and delay and misunderding due to dealing at long range ough Boston. The officers of the erican Board, with all their other ls and responsibilities, have apparly been unable to investigate on the d the needs of our west coast work many years past, or give it adequate ention.

I believe we are near enough and erested enough to supervise the rk from Southern California much tter than Boston, with the best posle intentions, can ever do it.

(2) We are coming to regard Home d Foreign Missions as ONE TASK. certainly is so as regards Southern lifornia and the west coast of Mex. The Mexicans come and go across e border almost at will, as labor conions indicate. It is the same man or nd of man who is being dealt with both sides of the border. We are rrying on successful work with Mexns in our state. I believe better ntinuity of effort would be secured Unity of Command and Unity of rvice on both sides of the border.

(3) "Projects" seem the approved der of the day in education, in reious work and in church missions. hat better opportunity for a project Southern California Congregationsts to arouse interest, loyalty and pport, than this one which lies half side and half outside our doors? (A al responsible project, in which the nference not only looks amiably on d extends its blessing, but definitely sumes financial and directing responsibility.) How better serve immediate ed and a great cause?

By Rev. A. D. Stauffacher

Pastor of the Claremont Church, Claremont

The move seems to be wise.

First, because of the close proximity Southern California and Mexico. We e neighbors in a literal sense. Improved means of travel is producing creased inter-mingling of these peoes. The application of the quota law nationals other than Mexicans means creased emigration from Mexico to uthern California. Exchange of lar, commerce and travel means exchange of social and spiritual ideas and ideals. Our own good as well as loyalty to the Christian Way of Life requires a vital interest on our part in the highest concerns of these neighbors of ours. This proposition promises to create and maintain such interest.

Second, the people of Southern California and of the West coast of Mexico need a vital challenging medium for the exchange of good-will and friendship. The work on the west coast of Mexico offers just such a medium. The proper development of the work begun there will give us an opportunity to share with Mexico the best we have in education, religion and friendship, and to receive from her the best she has to give to us. The decade just before us is pregnant with new and vital interrelationships between Southern California and Mexico. The potential power in the work begun on the west coast of Mexico for having that whole mass of inter-relationships with Christian good-will and friendship is most inviting.

Third, the American Board welcomes the agreement and the plan. As they survey the whole field this project seems wise to them and they are ready to enter into the plan with enthusiasm. Were this not the case we might well hesitate, for their vantage point for forming a judgment is broader than ours can possibly be. With their hearty co-operation and support we may move forward with full confidence.

The task is a big one. It calls for the whole-hearted co-operation of all, but it promises good to all.

By Rev. C. E. Crawford, Ontario

Why I believe the Southern California Conference Should Take Over the American Board Work on the West Coast of Mexico:

Consider the situation: A great movement for public education, with a definite, eager welcome for just the type of work we have in mind; a fight for political liberty; the scientific spirit taking possession of the intellectuals and causing a revulsion of feeling against sham and hypocrisy in the church; yet in their very denunciations of that church a profound admiration expressed for the pure and simple religion of Jesus; great denominational activities hanging in the balance, waiting for the leadership we are best qualified to give; all these, and many other factors, convince me that this is the hour of destiny for Congregationalism in Mexico.

The logic of circumstance points to Southern California Conference as of all Congregational agencies the one most able to enter into this opportunity.

1. In a real sense it is our problem, because of the vital relation between the welfare of Mexico and our own. Whatever is done in Mexico must certainly affect us for good or ill. There is no one else in our whole Congregational fellowship that has more at stake or should feel more responsibility than we for Mexico. It is fundamentally correct to place responsibility for this task on those who are most vitally interested.

2. Because of these contacts, we can make a contribution that no other of our agencies could make to that most acute and urgent problem of race prejudice. The weakness of our system has been, and still is, the tacit or open admission that "distance lends enchantment," the shying off from too close contact with the races we have wished to help, keeping our missionary activities safely impersonal so as to sidestep the issue of race prejudice. But foreign converts to Christianity are now awake and there must be an end to this situation or the loss to the whole church will be incalculable. Only an actual demonstration will avail, and no one but California could make so impressive a demonstration. Our proposal is nothing less than to wipe out the border and show the Mexican people that those most in contact with them are the very Americans most anxious to fraternize with and help them.

3. Southern California has a unique advantage in regard to administration. True, we lack experience in actually running a foreign mission, but, on the other hand, look at our facilities for keeping in touch with conditions in Mexico. Think of the business men, Mexican and American, resident here, representing vast interests there; men thoroughly conversant with political, industrial, educational conditions, not only in general but along our very West Coast field; think of the constant travel back and forth of prominent officials of the Mexican government, the ease with which our Conference representatives may visit the field, the Spanish papers published here, the thousand and one proofs of our proximity. This intimate contact is all the more important because of the shifting conditions to the South.

A word as to the American Board administration. As the result of over 100 years of experience it is entitled to all respect. And it is ideal for long-range administration. With headquarters half a world away from the field, it was the only practical system. But does it necessarily follow that, with all its perfection, it would be more accurate than the practically "point blank" range of Southern California? As a matter of fact, and I speak out of a profound love for the American Board, as well as an intimate knowledge of its workings, there is a fatal defect in their system. It is almost entirely advisory, and in case of a deadlock or any undesirable situation in a Mission, it is practically impossible to get action. All the knowledge and experience of the Secretaries is at times rendered useless because a Mission refuses to benefit by them. Under the Conference, this defect would be remedied. We may not have the experience yet, but it will come, and when it does we shall be free to apply it.

By Fred M. Wilcox, Conference Treasurer

As you know, I was lukewarm at the start about assuming any responsibility for our denominational work in Mexico. You will recall that when representatives of the American Board first broached the matter to us at Washington, I was not enthusiastic and was very particular that in all the talks we had the financial side of it should be arranged so that it would not make any demands on the Conference treasury and that our own income should be religiously conserved for the work in Southern California.

As these negotiations progressed and I talked of the needs of Mexico with friends who were thoroughly acquainted there, I became more interested.

When the directors requested that I go on a trip of inspection to Mexico, I protested against spending my time and money in that manner. I was virtually drafted. I came back deeply impressed with the sense of our Christian duty in the matter.

Financially, commercially and economically, Southern California occupies a peculiar and strategic position in regard to the west coast of Mexico. If there was ever a case analagous to the parable of the Good Samaritan this is such a case. The west coast of Mexico is a potential empire of the same kind of possibilities and production of wealth as Southern California. Its need for the gospel of Christ is very great.

The Mexican Government is making wonderful efforts to remove the appalling illiteracy of the country. They need help and need it very badly. As foreign missionary work it has been almost at home, and yet it is more than three thousand miles from the Boston headquarters. The relative importance of the work has been so small compared to the greater undertakings of our Board that it has seriously suffered. It has had no personal supervision from the Board for twenty years. As the American Board agrees to furnish in excess of $40,000.00 a year for this work, which would entirely cover the budget as at present administered, and we can undoubtedly secure considerable gifts from parties interested in Mexico, but not interested in our ordinary denominational program, I am sure a great advance will be possible. There are also many concerns in this locality with large interests in Mexico, who, I am sure, will help.

The Mexican work needs a sympathetic responsibility for it on the part of people in close touch with it. A project plan in the ordinary acceptance of the term will not meet this situation. Only by actual responsibility and close contact can we enlist our constituency for active work and for their gifts.

One manner in which the work has come to appeal to me very strongly is that we have many individuals in our churches who have great ability, but are not doing any work outside of their local church, who can be enlisted to take an interest in this work. Some of our pastors have told me that their congregation was made up largely of individuals not interested in our denominational program but who could be enlisted in some work of this kind that would make an appeal to them. One pastor assured me he felt positive he could in a short time secure from the people of his church and congregation $5000.00 for this work in excess of what they were now giving on their regular apportionment.

I am sure that we can do better than any other organization a work on the west coast of Mexico that will help to bring in the Kingdom there.

By Austin Rice, for the Papal States Committee

The action of the Prudential Committee at Omaha with reference to the taking over of the Mexico work by the Southern California Conference was taken as a result of mutual conferences between the committee representing the Southern California Conference and the Prudential Committee of the American Board. This agreement was entered into freely and deliberately by the Prudential Committee of the Board with the understanding that it should be effective when agreed upon by both parties.

It is not the desire of the Prudential Committee in any way to anticipate or influence the action of the Southern California Conference, which, we recognize, is wholly a matter for decision by the Conference itself. But in case the action taken at Omaha is heartily concurred in by the Southern California Conference, the Prudential Committee will gladly carry out its own part of the agreement and will expect beneficial results from such a plan.

While thoroughly standing by its agreement, the Prudential Committee will be open-minded to consider any proposition which you or others on behalf of the Southern California Conference may recommend for further study.

By Cornelius H. Patton, Secretary, A. B. C. F. M.

I do hope you can carry through the Mexico arrangement, as we are thoroughly committed to it here, and consider that your proposal, if it is backed heartily by the churches, will be for the good of the work. Of course, otherwise we could never have favored the plan.

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EDITORIAL STAFF

William J. Minchin, Editor.
Mrs. A. L. Gillman, Associate Editor.
George F. Kenngott, Associate Editor.

As the Missionaries See It

Rev. H. C. Champe wrote the Conference Superintendent from Mazatlan, February 8th, as follows: "Even though the Conference does not assume responsibility for the Mexico work until after next May, I should think it would be most desirable that you visit the field this spring, as you originally planned. It would give you an opportunity to know our work at first-hand, to know what our plans for the future are, and to present a pretty definite program for the future at the annual meeting of the Conference. As it is, it will be slow enough to adopt a new program and get it under way and it seems to me that the sooner the Conference Directors can present definite plans as to just what they want to do, the better it will be for the cause there and it surely will be a great advantage to us to know more or less what we can count on.

We have already held up a number of projects awaiting the approval of the Conference and it is a severe handicap to wait another six months before the Conference takes over the work, and quien sabe how much longer before we can get approval of our projects after that. So I do hope that you will come down in March, as you planned to do. . . .

There may be some question as to who initiated the move, but it is about as futile to discuss that phase of the question as to settle the problem as to who started the war. The fact that the American Board has actually approved of the proposal of the Conference completely answers the objection that "The American Board does not approve of the plan." . . . I am sure I speak for all of them (the missionaries in Mexico) when I say that we are expecting great things from the Southern California Conference and shall be disappointed if their plan or a similar one is not adopted. At the last annual meeting of the Mission the proposed plan was presented and explained in detail and there were no objections made to it by missionaries nor Mexican workers."

A letter was received from Rev. Clarence A. Neff, Guadalajara, Mexico, dated February 14th, reading as follows: "It was certainly unfortunate that the obstacle came up to the taking over of the Mexico work last month. We fear here that our uncertain status is going to make it very difficult to make plans for next Fall. Mr. and Mrs. Lorbeer and Miss Allen are leaving Guadalajarar in June, leaving Miss Wright and me to be the sole survivors of our present force here. At this time there is a need and opportunity for some radical changes in our policy, and we need advice badly before we make them. I hope you can still see your way clear to come down here in March. Your visit would give you valuable information and background to take to the annual meeting of the Conference, and you would help us here immensely. Come if you possibly can."

BOARD NOTES

Conference Directors, at their meeting January 10th, voted that "Dr. Kenngott be authorized to condense the minutes of the Board meetings each time and print them in 'The Pacific'." In accordance with this vote, herewith follows the budget for 1928 as adopted by the Directors at their meeting Tuesday, Feb. 14:

1. Employed officers, salaries and traveling expenses		$12,200.00
2. Office expenses—Rent, printing, telegrams, postage, stationery		4,144.80
		$16,344.80
Cr. by payment from Cong'l Book Room toward expenses	$900.00	
Cr. by payment from Cong'l Church Extension Society	450.00	1,350.00
		$14,994.80
3. Cong'l Women's Missionary Society of Southern California (estimate for a year)		1,000.00
4. Attending meetings of Board, etc. (estimated)		226.28
5. Reading Circle (estimated)		224.40
6. Taxes (estimated)		990.89
7. Dues—National Council (27,000 members at 8 cents per capita)	$2,160.00	
State Church Federation	400.00	
Southern California Council of Religious Education	250.00	2,810.00
8. Annuities		120.00
9. Interest		1,259.00
10. Payments to C. C. B. S. on loans—Barstow, Burbank, Puente, Bakersfield (Pilgrim)		920.00
11. Missionary Grants—		
Los Angeles Association	$6,840.00	
Kern Association	2,460.00	
San Bernardino Association	1,980.00	
San Diego Association	1,200.00	
		$12,480.00
Oriental and Indian Work—		
Japanese	$3,054.00	
Chinese	3,360.00	
Sherman Institute	500.00	
		6,914.00
Mexican Work	7,290.00	7,290.00
12. Ministerial Relief		1,910.00
		$51,139.37

List of Stocks and Note Owned by Conference with Description and Value—

			Interest
10 shares	$ 1,000.00	Wright & Callendar Bldg.	
5 shares	500.00	San Diego Cons. G. & E. Co.	$ 25.00
	32,500.00	Mtg. on property of Pentecostal Church, formerly Central M. E. Church, Long Beach, @ 7%	2,275.00
	6,500.00	Note, Compton property	525.00
	$40,500.00		$2,825.00

The following action was taken on January 10:

Barstow—Contract was signed with Steed Bros. for $14,904.00 for the Barstow Church building. It was announced that it was the expectation that $4,000.00 would come from the Building Society, $4,000.00 from Long Beach First Church, and that Barstow had $1,800.00 in hand, and that a resolution adopted by the Conference Directors July 12, 1927, authorized the borrowing of $6,500.00 when $4,000.00 was received in cash or pledges locally at Barstow.

Apportionment—It was voted that we recommend to the Conference $150,000.00 as its apportionment for 1929, and also that we follow the customary standard and urge as an ideal twenty cents (20c) per member per week, permitting each church to set its own apportionment figure. Voted that we divide the apportionment funds as heretofore, 50 per cent Conference, 20 per cent National and 30 per cent Foreign. The Pacific School of Religion was endorsed as being a designated part of the apportionment for Foundation for Education.

Mexican Work—Letters from Revs. Brewer Eddy and H. C. Champe, and others, were read, concerning the West coast of Mexico, and the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Directors confirm their previous actions endorsing 'The proposed agreement of the American Board and the Conference' regarding the assumption by the Conference of responsibility for the work of the American Board on the West coast of Mexico, including schools and churches, but excluding the Union Seminary in Mexico City."

Pilgrim Place—Voted on behalf of the Conference that we renominate Dr. Luther Freeman as a Director for Pilgrim Place.

The following action was taken February 14:

The Superintendent was authorized to send a letter of sympathy to Rev. Stephen A. Norton on the death of Mrs. Norton, and to the Lopez family on the death of Rev. Ignacio Lopez.

Oriental Work—A. M. A. Committee: Mr. Donat reported for the A. M. A. Committee, suggesting a change of name to the Oriental and Indian Work Committee, and recommending that slides and a lecture be prepared covering our work in Southern California, to be used by our churches here. The recommendation was adopted.

Pilgrim, Bakersfield—Resolution was adopted to sell lots 23, 24, block 27, Bakersfield, to Mr. and Mrs. Asa E. Abbott for $3,500.00 on installments. This was the property which the Conference received as part payment from the Mormon Church for the purchase of the Pilgrim Church property. It was voted that the note and mortgage on the sale of the Mormon property be loaned to the Pilgrim Church, Bakersfield, for them to use as collateral in borrowing $3,000.00 for the building of the first unit, providing a joint committee consisting of the Conference Treasurer, two members of the First Church, Bakersfield, and the Pastor and two members of the Pilgrim Church, Bakersfield, be the Building Committee. It is proposed to erect a first unit by the Pilgrim Church, Bakersfield, near the Williams School, on lots owned by the Conference.

Ocean Beach—It was voted to sell the Ocean Beach property, San Diego, for $2,700.00, to San Diego City for Public Library.

Mexican Work—Superintendent's report: Voted, That on recommendation of Mr. Toomay the Lopez family be given the use of the parsonage of Ontario and $100.00 a month, also up to $25.00 a month from the field if such is raised in addition. Also that the Crawford family have the rent of a house at Pomona and $100.00 a month also up to $25.00 from the field if such amount is raised. R. S. Holding, Superintendent, $125.00 a month and rent of house at Chino; J. C. Pacillas, parsonage at Puente and $45.00 a month, of which $25.00 comes from Community Church at Puente.

Reports—That we authorize the printing of the reports to be given at the State Conference so that they may be in the hands of delegates at the opening of the Conference.

Book Room—The Book Room agreement with the Pilgrim Press was approved for one year, beginning March 1. The Book Room will pay the Conference $75.00 a month for rent.

Tehachapi and Mojave—Voted that the communication received concerning these fields be referred to the Superintendent and the Finance Committee, with power to continue negotiations.

Buena Park—A representative of the Buena Park Church appeared before the Directors with an application to the Building Society for a $6,000.00 loan and $4,000.00 grant for their projected church building. Voted that Dr. Kenngott confer with this church and agree on some lesser definite amount to be applied for.

Director of Religious Education—The Committee on Religious Education recommended to the Board of Directors that they are favorable to the call of Rev. Sydney Buckham to the position of Secretary of Religious Education, but they believe final decision on Mr. Buckham's employment by the Board of Directors should wait upon a conference between the two at the earliest possible date. Approved.

Carthay Center—A communication was received from the Union Church at Carthay Center, asking that this denomination be represented at a meeting soon to be held which will consider the matter of organic union. Voted that we accept this invitation and appoint Dr. Kenngott as our representative to attend the proposed meeting.

THE LENTEN SEASON began February 22. Palm Sunday comes April 1; Easter, April 8. These are precious days for religious education and spiritual refreshment, deepening of religious life, commitments in loyalty to "Christ and the Church," ingathering Easter. If Mr. Waterhouse and I can be of any service to you, please command us.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL RETREAT AT AVALON, APRIL 9-13. Call it "Convocation" if you don't like to "retreat." Train leaves Pacific Electric station, Sixth and Main streets, Los Angeles, at 9 a. m. promptly. Report before 8:45 a. m. to "avoid the rush." Steamer leaves Wilmington at 10 a.m.; returning, leaves Avalon 3:30 p.m., and train leaves Wilmington at 5:30, due in Los Angeles station at 6:30 p.m. The round trip fare on Pacific Electric is 35 cents; on steamer, $1.00. Buy tickets at station. If you leave from Wilmington, let me know a week in advance to secure tickets. Please let me know by April 2 if you are going, in order to make reservations.

Avalon Church invites us and assures us free lodgings. Free transportation at clergy rates from their homes to Avalon for Home Missionary pastors. Professor Hudson Ballard will be with us for Monday and Tuesday. Freedom, fellowship, "feast of reason and flow of soul," rest and recreation. Don't miss Avalon!